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PACIFIC AND WESTERN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT TRADE REVIEW

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., SEPTEMBER 24, 1948 (USDA). CONSIDERABLY SLOWER ACTION PREVAILED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK IN THE LIVESTOCK AND WHOLESALE MEAT MARKETS OF THE PACIFIC AND WESTERN STATES. SUPPLIES OF MOST CLASSES WERE OF FAIRLY LARGE VOLUME, WHEN MEASURED AGAINST A SOMEWHAT NARROWER OUTLET AND A MORE CAUTIOUS BUYING ATTITUDE. IN PART THE NARROWER OUTLET FOR BEEF WAS ATTRIBUTED TO WORK STOPPAGES IN WATER-FRONT AND OIL REFINERY ACTIVITIES. THE SUPPLYING OF OCEAN GOING VESSELS IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE COAST CITIES MEAT TRADE.

LARGER MARKETINGS OF CATTLE, WHICH IS MOSTLY SEASONAL, ACCOUNTED FOR MUCH OF THE WEEK'S INCREASE IN VOLUME. THE OVER-ALL MOVEMENT WAS ACTUALLY LARGER THAN TERMINAL MARKET RECEIPTS INDICATED AS THERE WAS A FAIRLY LARGE OFFERING BY DIRECT SHIPMENT FROM RANCHES TO PACKERS AND FEEDLOTS AS WELL AS SOME FROM CANADA. STEERS AND RANGE COWS TENDED TO PREDOMINATE, WHILE THE SUPPLY OF DAIRY TYPE CANNER AND CUTTER COWS REMAINED SMALL AND IN GOOD DEMAND AT MOST MARKETS. IN GENERAL PRICES WERE WORKING DOWNWARD WITH SLAUGHTER STEERS AND HEIFERS CLOSING FULLY 50¢ TO \$1.00 LOWER FOR THE WEEK. MOST RANGE COWS WERE WEAK TO 50¢ LOWER, BUT CANNER AND CUTTER COWS SOLD STRONG TO \$1.00 HIGHER WITH MOST OF THE ADVANCES IN THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AREA. STOCKER AND FEEDER CATTLE SHARED THE FULL DECLINE REGISTERED ON SLAUGHTER STEERS. CALVES AND VEALERS SOLD STEADY TO 50¢ HIGHER, WHILE HOG PRICES AVERAGED OUT AROUND STEADY, THOUGH SOME NARROW CHANGES DEVELOPED. THE EARLY TREND WAS SHARPLY LOWER ON SPRING LAMBS, BUT SUPPLIES WERE TOO SMALL ALONG THE COAST TO OFFER A REAL TEST OF THE MARKET. HOWEVER, THE OUTLET BROADENED ON LATE DAYS AND SOME FIRMNESS WAS INJECTED INTO THE UNDERTONE.

ON THE WHOLESALE MEAT TRADE AT LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, PORTLAND, TACOMA AND SEATTLE RATHER SLOW ACTION AND WEAK TO \$1.00 LOWER PRICES PREVAILED ON MOST OF THE BEEF, VEAL AND CALF SUPPLY. SOME COW BEEF AND LAMB WAS OFF AS MUCH AS \$2.00 IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST CITIES. SPRING LAMB SOLD STEADY TO WEAK, FRESH PORK AVERAGED ABOUT STEADY, WHILE SMOKED PORK WAS STRONG TO \$1.00 HIGHER.

MOST OF THE WEEK'S MOVEMENT OF MEDIUM TO LOW GOOD SLAUGHTER STEERS SOLD FROM \$25.00 TO \$31.00, WITH ONLY A FEW LOADS OF GOOD FED STEERS GETTING FROM \$31.50 TO \$33.00. MEDIUM GRADE HEIFERS SOLD RATHER FREELY AT \$24.00 TO \$26.00, ONLY A FEW HIGH MEDIUM AND GOOD MAKING \$27.50 TO \$30.00. NUMEROUS LOADS OF COMMON AND MEDIUM RANGE COWS CASHED AT \$19.00 TO \$21.50 AT THE COAST MARKETS, A FEW MEDIUM AND GOOD MAKING \$22.50 TO \$23.50, WHILE CANNERS AND CUTTERS RANGED FROM \$15.00 TO \$18.50. IN THE INTERMOUNTAIN STATES COMPARABLE CLASSES AND GRADES SOLD AT PRICES THAT WERE \$1.00 TO \$1.50 BELOW THE ABOVE RANGES. MANY LOTS OF MEDIUM AND GOOD 200-400 LB. CALVES SOLD FOR SLAUGHTER AT \$26.00 TO \$28.00, A FEW GOOD AND CHOICE VEALERS AND CALVES MAKING \$29.00 TO \$31.00. MOST MEDIUM AND GOOD STOCKER AND FEEDER STEERS SOLD FROM \$25.00 TO \$28.00 AT THE MARKETS, WHILE A NUMBER OF SALES AT RANCHES WERE REPORTED FROM VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE WESTERN STATES AT \$25.00 TO \$27.00, WITH A FEW GOOD AND CHOICE FEEDERS UP TO \$28.00.

ON LATE DAYS 180-240 LB. BUTCHER HOGS, WHICH WEIGHTS COMPRISED A VERY LARGE SHARE OF THE TOTAL OFFERINGS, SOLD AT \$29.75 TO \$31.75 ALONG THE COAST. A FEW SALES OF GOOD FEEDER PIGS UNDER 70 LBS. WERE MADE AT \$34.00 TO \$36.00. GOOD AND CHOICE SPRING LAMBS BROUGHT \$24.00 LATE AT SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO, \$22.00 AT PORTLAND AND \$23.50 AT OGDEN.

RPK 3:40 P. M. 9/24/48

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